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This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of March since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 52,000 during March, 13 percent below 2010.

### Cattle on Feed, 1,000+ Feedlots, Colorado and United States, April 1, 2010-2011

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 head			
On Feed March 1	940	1,070	10,849	11,399
Placements During Mar.	185	215	1,856	1,918
< 600 pounds	30	40	395	380
600 - 699 pounds	40	35	375	360
700 - 799 pounds	70	70	601	588
800 plus pounds	45	70	485	590
Marketings During Mar.	190	190	1,903	1,988
Other Disap. During Mar.	5	5	60	52
On Feed April 1	930	1,090	10,742	11,277
Steers & Steer Calves	630	740	6,681	7,124
Heifers & Heifer Calves	295	345	4,020	4,101
Cows & Bulls	5	5	41	52

### CATTLE ON FEED APRIL 1, 2011

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,090,000 head as of April 1, 2011. The latest inventory was 2 percent above last month's inventory and 17 percent above April 1, 2010 inventory. The inventory included 740,000 steers and steer calves, up 17 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 345,000 head, are up 17 percent from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, no change from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 190,000 head of fed cattle during March 2011. This was 10 percent below the previous month's marketings and unchanged from one year earlier. An estimated 215,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during March, unchanged from February 2011 placements but up 16 percent from a year ago. Of the number placed in March, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 16 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 33 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 33 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for March, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from last month and last year.

### CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION MARCH 2011

**Colorado** laying flocks produced 90 million eggs during March 2011 compared with 92 million in March 2010 and 78 million in February 2011. The number of layers during March of this year was nearly 3.82 million, up from 3.70 million the previous year. The average number of eggs produced per 100 birds was 2,358 for March 2011 compared with 2,485 for March 2010.

**United States** egg production totaled 7.83 billion during March 2011, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.75 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 73 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2011 averaged 340 million, down 1 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,302 eggs, up slightly from March 2010. All layers in the United States on April 1, 2011 totaled 342 million, down slightly from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 284 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 54.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.93 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2011, averaged 74.5 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from April 1, 2010. Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2011 totaled 44.0 million, down 2 percent from March 2010. Eggs in incubators totaled 40.8 million on April 1, 2011, down 5 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on April 1, 2011. The inventory was 5 percent above April 1, 2010. The inventory included 7.12 million steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.10 million head, up 2 percent from 2010. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.92 million, 3 percent above 2010. Net placements were 1.87 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 380,000, 600-699 pounds were 360,000, 700-799 pounds were 588,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 590,000. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.99 million, 4 percent above 2010.

future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 275 thousand during March 2011, up 6 percent from March 2010.

### MILK PRODUCTION MARCH 2011 - 23 STATES

**Colorado** dairy herds produced 252 million pounds of milk during March 2011, up 20 million pounds from March last year. The average number of cows, at 125,000, is up 9,000 head from the 116,000 cows on hand a year ago. The average milk per cow for the month of March in Colorado was 2,015 pounds per cow compared with 2,000 pounds per cow in March 2010.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during March totaled 15.8 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from March 2010. February revised production at 14.0 billion pounds, was up 2.3 percent from February 2010. The February revision represented a decrease of 14 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,872 pounds for March, 24 pounds above March 2010. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.42 million head, 93,000 head more than March 2010, and 17,000 head more than February 2011. Milk production in the U.S. during the January - March quarter totaled 48.4 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from the January - March quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 70,000 head more than the same period last year.

#### Milk Cows and Milk Production, Colorado and 23 States

Item	March 2010	Feb. 2011	March 2011
<b>Colorado</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> .....	116	123	125
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....	2,000	1,795	2,015
Production (mil. Lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....	232	221	252
<b>23 States</b>			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> .....	8,329	8,405	8,422
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....	1,848	1,664	1,872
Production (mil. Lbs.) <u>2/</u> .....	15,389	13,987	15,763

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

### POTATO STOCKS - APRIL 1, 2011

**Colorado** growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 7.2 million hundredweight of potatoes on hand as of April 1, 2011, down 25 percent from the 9.6 million hundredweight on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 33 percent of the 21.53 million hundredweight produced in 2011.

The **13 major potato States** held 106 million hundredweight of potatoes in storage April 1, 2011, down 18 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 30 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, four percentage points below April 1, 2010. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 1.20 million hundredweight on April 1, 2011, down 8 percent from

a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 246 million hundredweight, was 4 percent below April 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.4 million hundredweight, was down 16 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 127 million hundredweight of potatoes this season, up 2 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 19.5 million hundredweight of the total processing, down 16 percent from last year.

### COLD STORAGE - MARCH 31, 2011

Total natural cheese stocks in refrigerated warehouses on March 31, 2011 were down slightly from the previous month but up 3 percent from March 31, 2010. Butter stocks were up 4 percent from last month but down 26 percent from a year ago. Total frozen fruit stocks were down 11 from last month and down 16 percent from a year ago. Total frozen vegetable stocks were down 10 percent from last month and down 11 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 1 percent from the previous month but up 13 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 1 percent from the previous month and up 12 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 3 percent from last month but down 11 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on March 31, 2011 were up 2 percent from the previous month and up 3 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 3 percent from the previous month but up 13 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 15 percent from last month but down 13 percent from March 31, 2010.

### Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	Mar. 31, 2010	Feb. 28, 2011	Mar. 31, 2011
	1,000 Pounds		
Butter.....	195,888	138,672	144,439
Cheese, total natural.....	1,004,763	1,034,577	1,033,243
Eggs, frozen .....	21,623	28,143	27,291
Poultry, total frozen.....	999,549	1,010,045	1,033,041
Chicken .....	616,158	716,405	695,802
Turkey .....	379,720	288,976	331,063
Fruits, frozen.....	1,014,457	950,854	847,656
Fruit Juices, frozen .....	1,654,144	1,231,459	1,190,381
Vegetables, total frozen ....	1,959,773	1,934,877	1,741,662
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,100,472	1,102,938	1,090,824
Meats, total red.....	921,753	1,050,561	1,042,666
Beef, total frozen .....	384,596	459,833	448,828
Pork, total frozen .....	513,066	574,236	577,198

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

**Colorado** producers intend to plant 7,700 acres of summer storage onions in 2011, up 3 percent from last year.

**United States** total planted onion area for all seasons in 2011 is forecast at 158,860 acres, up 2 percent from last year. Spring onions are expected to be harvested from 30,300 acres in 2011, up 17 percent from 2010. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 7.13 million hundredweight, 5 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion planted area, at 17,900 acres, is down 6 percent from a year ago. Total summer onion area, at 125,960 acres, is down 1 percent from the previous year.

Storage planted area is 108,060 acres, up slightly from 2010. California acreage, which is primarily dehydrated or otherwise processed, is down slightly from last year. Despite rainy conditions in the San Joaquin Valley during December, good growing conditions are currently being reported. In Washington, irrigation supplies are reported as adequate.

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Apr. 27 - Dairy Products - Annual
- Apr. 29 - Agricultural Prices
- May 11 - Crop Production
- May 13 - Potato Stocks
- May 18 - Milk Production
- May 20 - Cattle on Feed

**William Meyer**  
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**Onions for Fresh Market 2008-2010 Crops**

Crop	Area Planted		
	2009	2010	2011
	Acres		
Spring <sup>1/</sup>			
Total	29,900	28,400	32,900
Summer: <sup>1/</sup>			
Non-Storage			
CA .....	6,600	6,800	6,600
NV .....	3,400	3,700	3,500
NM.....	5,200	6,000	5,000
TX.....	700	600	600
WA <sup>2/</sup> .....	2,000	2,000	2,200
Total .....	17,900	19,100	17,900
Storage			
CA <sup>3/</sup> .....	32,600	30,100	30,000
CO .....	8,000	7,500	7,700
ID .....	9,000	9,200	9,500
MI .....	4,000	4,200	3,900
NY .....	10,600	10,700	10,500
OR:			
Malheur	11,200	11,300	11,500
Other	9,100	8,900	9,200
WA .....	21,000	22,000	22,000
WI.....	2,000	2,000	2,000
Oth Sts <sup>4/</sup> .....	2,010	1,870	1,760
Total	109,510	107,770	108,060
Total Summer.....	127,410	126,870	125,960
U.S. ....	157,310	155,270	158,860

<sup>1/</sup> Primarily fresh market. <sup>2/</sup> Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.  
<sup>3/</sup> Primarily dehydrated and other processing. <sup>4/</sup> OH and UT.

**UPCOMING REPORTS**